

Response

Applicants: Garland L. Segner et al.

Serial No.: 10/632,145

Attorney Docket: EV31008US

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REMARKS

Claims 1 to 14, 16 to 19, 22 to 35, 37 to 40, and 43 to 49 are pending in this application. The Examiner withdrew from consideration claims 3 to 6, 10, 11, 16, 22, 23, 26 to 29, 31, 32, 37, 43 to 47, and 49. Claims 1, 2, 7 to 9, 12 to 14, 17 to 19, 24, 25, 30, 33 to 35, 38 to 40, and 48 are pending and under examination.

The Examiner rejected claims 24, 30, 33 to 35, 38 to 40, and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,019,736 to Avellanet et al. ("Avellanet").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection of the claims. Independent claims 1, 24, 45, 46, 48, and 49 recite that the guide wire comprises a single coil comprising 3 to 24 wire strands, each of the 3 to 24 wire strands being formed in a single helix and wrapped helically parallel to one another to thereby form the single coil, the single coil having a longitudinal central axis and an interior, and the angle between the wire strands and the longitudinal central axis is from 10 to 45 degrees. Claims 1, 14, 45, and 46 recite that at least a portion of the tapered distal region of the core is disposed within the interior of the single coil. Claim 48 recites that the single coil is disposed distal to the distal end of the core. Claim 49 recites that the entire core is disposed within the interior of the single coil.

Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed range for the angle of from 10 to 45 degrees. Figure 11 of Avellanet shows an angle between the coil 116 and the core 100 that falls outside of this range. No angle falling within the claimed range is disclosed in Avellanet. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner cite a portion of Avellanet or explain how Avellanet teaches or suggests the claimed range for the angle. Applicants do not understand how the Examiner can construe Avellanet to teach or suggest the claimed range. Because Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of the claims.

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The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7 to 9, 12 to 14, 17 to 19, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of Avellanet and U.S. Patent No. 5,749,837 to Palermo et al. ("Palermo").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection of the claims. As discussed above, independent claims 1, 24, 45, 46, 48, and 49 recite that the guide wire comprises a single coil comprising 3 to 24 wire strands, each of the 3 to 24 wire strands being formed in a single helix and wrapped helically parallel to one another to thereby form the single coil, the single coil having a longitudinal central axis and an interior, and the angle between the wire strands and the longitudinal central axis is from 10 to 45 degrees.

Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed range for the angle of from 10 to 45 degrees. Palermo does not remedy this deficiency of Avellanet. Because the combination of Avellanet and Palermo does not suggest the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of the claims.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of the claims.

If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-2312. If a fee is required for

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an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

May 4, 2007

By:

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